

JONATHAN ANTHONY LEE TORRES,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NATHAN BALL, et al.,

Defendants.


representation in breach of contract and Plaintiff's right to meaningful access to the courts. There is no absolute right to the appointment of counsel in civil actions such as this one. Therefore, a plaintiff must present "exceptional circumstances" in order to require the Court to seek the assistance of a private attorney for a plaintiff who is unable to afford counsel. Miller v. Simmons, 814 F.2d 962, 966 (4th Cir. 1987). Plaintiff has failed to demonstrate the existence of exceptional circumstances and therefore the Motion will be denied.

Finally, Plaintiff has filed a Motion for Extension of the Case Management Order, (Doc. No. 23), in which he notes that NCPLS has withdrawn from the case and alleges that he will not be able to view the body-cam footage without a lawyer. Adequate time still remains before the discovery window closes, (Doc. No. 17), so this Motion will be denied without prejudice at this time.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- (1) Plaintiff's Letter is construed as a Motion for Subpoena for Discovery, (Doc. No. 20), and is **DENIED**.
- (2) Plaintiff's Motion for Appointment of Counsel, (Doc. No. 21), is **DENIED**.
- (3) Plaintiff's Motion for Extension of the Case Management Order, (Doc. No. 23), is **DENIED**.

Signed: February 19, 2020


Frank D. Whitney
Chief United States District Judge 